

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of heating a kiln used in the manufacture of producing cement clinker comprising:

providing a kiln;

providing a raw feed comprising limestone, clay and an organic waste/mineral by-product mixture;

burning a fuel comprising an organic waste/mineral by-product mixture to heat the kiln;  
and

heating the raw feed to form cement clinker,

wherein the organic waste/mineral by-product mixture comprises an alkaline material, the organic waste being comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of dewatered sewage sludge filter cake, animal manure, pulp and paper waste, fermentation waste, shredded paper and cardboard, and food waste, the mineral by-product being comprised of a coal combustion by-product comprising one or more materials selected from the group consisting of fly ash, bottom ash, fluidized bed ash, boiler slag and flue gas desulfurization by-products.

2.-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 1 wherein said alkaline material comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of lime, calcium hydroxide, limestone, cement kiln dust and lime kiln dust.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said fuel further comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of coal, pet coke, oil, natural gas and hazardous waste.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said fuel further comprises pet coke.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic waste/mineral by-product mixture has a solids content of at least about 50%.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic waste/mineral by-product mixture has a solids content of at least about 75%.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic waste/mineral by-product mixture has a solids content of at least about 90%.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic waste/mineral by-product mixture has a pH of at least about 9.5.

12.-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended -Withdrawn) A method for reducing NOx emissions from exhaust gases generated during the production of by the method of producing cement clinker according to claim 1 comprising contacting said exhaust gases containing NOx with ammonia liberated from organic waste.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22 wherein said ammonia is liberated by raising the pH of said organic waste to at least about 9.5.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34 further comprising drying said organic waste/mineral by-product mixture.

26.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein the pH of the organic waste is raised to at least about 9.5 by forming an organic waste/mineral by-product mixture.